



# CENTENARY COLLEGE

## School of Church Careers

Shreveport  Louisiana

*An Institution of the United Methodist Church*









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There's a full moon over India and Gandhi lives again.  
Who's to say you have to lose for someone else to win.  
In the eyes of all the people the look is much the same,  
For the first is just the last one when you play a deadly game.

It's about time we realize it . . we're all in this together.  
It's about time we find out it's all of us or none.  
It's about time we recognize it, these changes in the weather.  
It's about time. . it's about changes. . and it's about time.

There's a light in the Vatican window for all the world to see.  
And a voice cries in the wilderness and sometimes  
    he speaks of me.  
I suppose I love him most of all when he kneels to  
    kiss the land.  
With his lips upon our Mother's breast he makes his  
    strongest stand.

It's about time we start to see it . . the earth  
    is our only home.  
It's about time we start to face it. . we can't make  
    it here all alone.  
It's about time we start to listen to the voices in the wind.  
It's about time and it's about changes and it's about time.

There's a man who is my brother . . I just don't  
    know his name.  
But I know his home and family because I know we  
    feel the same.  
And it hurts me when he's hungry and when his children cry.  
I, too, am a father, and that little one is mine.

It's about time we begin it . . to turn the world around.  
It's about time we start to make it the dream we've  
    always known.

It's about time we start to live it the family of man.  
It's about time . . it's about changes . . and it's about time.  
It's about peace and it's about plenty and it's about time.  
It's about you and me together and it's about time.



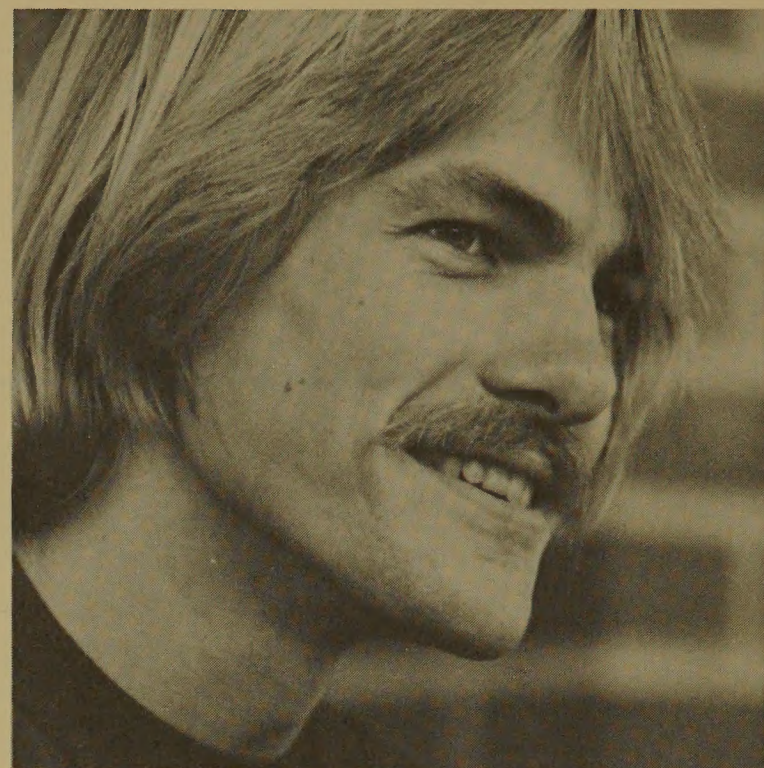




# It's about time \_\_\_\_\_

## To respond to a world in need-

Because you are a sensitive person you are aware of the pressing concerns in today's world - loneliness, alienation, sickness, disease, hunger, violence, the threat of global destruction. People in their need cry out and you hear the call to respond. \_\_\_\_\_



## To bring new life to the church-

You know that for the Church to respond positively and actively to these needs it must be alive and vital. You want to be involved in a Church that is spirited and creative. You would like to be a life-giving leader in the Church. \_\_\_\_\_



## To decide on a direction for your life-

You know that the next few years will be an important time for you. You will be deciding how you can best take your gifts and abilities and use them in meaningful work that will make a contribution to life. You want to begin to establish a direction for yourself. \_\_\_\_\_

## To choose a college where you can be equipped for life-

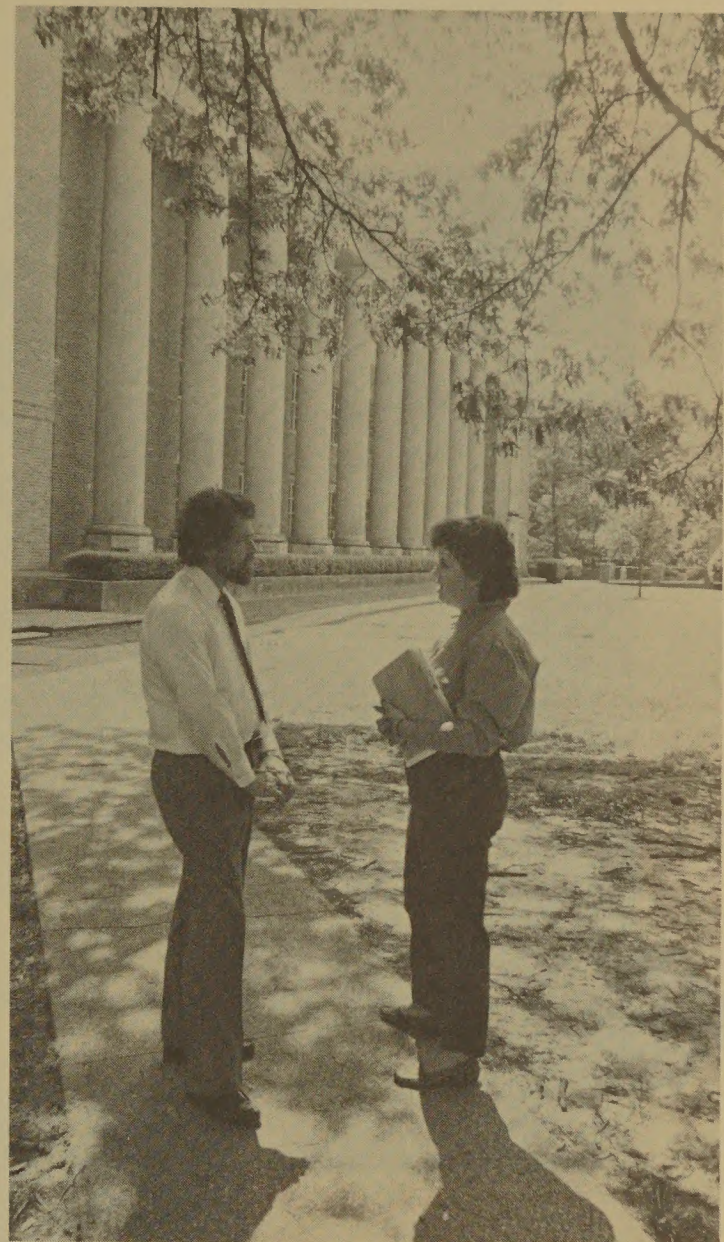
You are aware that the choice of a place where your gifts and abilities can be called forth and your hopes and dreams nurtured is no small matter. You want the best preparation for life and your work that you can get. You want your college years to set the stage for an ever-deepening unfolding of your life. \_\_\_\_\_

## To consider the Church Careers Program at Centenary College-

Because your imagination has been captured by the possibility of a career in the Church: in Christian Education, youth ministry, sacred music, ordained ministry, church social work, church recreation, or some other experimental form of ministry: you will want to look carefully at what we offer in the Church Careers Program at Centenary. Our purpose is to prepare men and women for vigorous lives of Christian service and ministry. \_\_\_\_\_

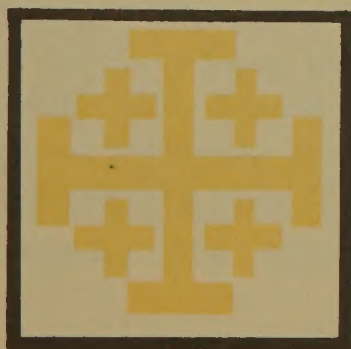






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**I**n the Church Careers Program we believe that becoming a church professional is more than learning skills. It is more than just a job. It is a vocation; it is a whole life of faith; it is a response to a call. No part of your life, no part of your world, lie beyond God's call to you. You have to bring it all together. Your faith involves all of you: your reason, your emotions, your spirit. It involves relationships: your relationships with others, with God, and with Christ and His Church. Each part of you contributes to your becoming a person of faith and a church professional.



You may have sensed your call in a deep or dramatic religious experience. Your sense of purpose may have grown as you have matured. Perhaps others sense God's call for you and you take seriously what they are saying. You may still be uncertain. In whatever way God's call may be coming to you, we want to share your search.

We want to respond to God's action in your life. You know you don't have all the answers. You want to grow. We are a growing, searching community of people from many different religious traditions who have dedicated ourselves to exploring and living active and vital faith. We believe people never stop growing. All of us, faculty and students alike, share this journey. We are a community.

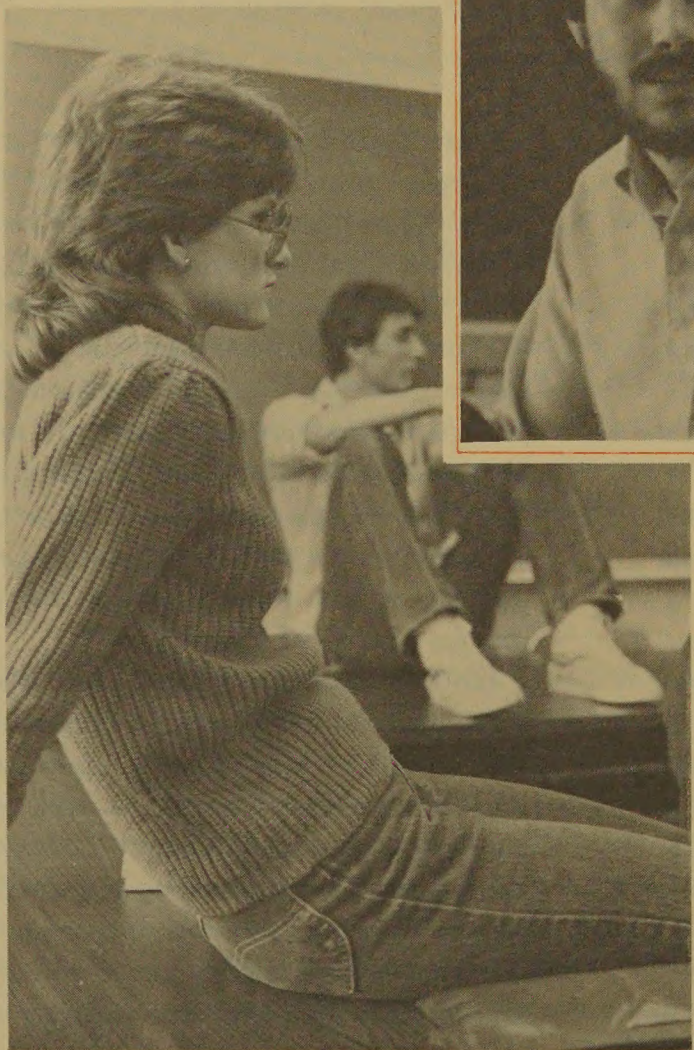
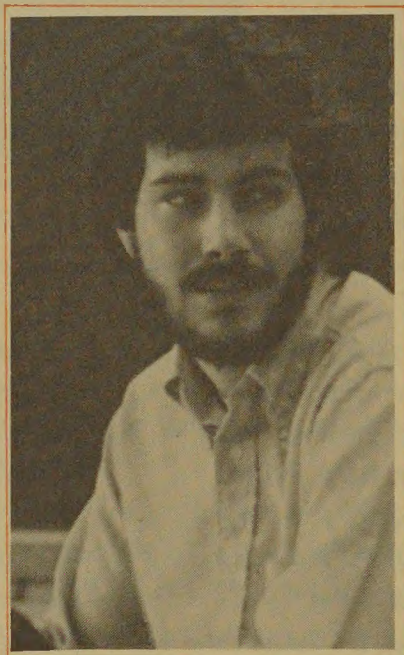
The traditions of the Centenary College Community date back over 150 years. As an institution of the United Methodist Church, Centenary has a distinguished history of preparing men and women for Christian ministry. The Church Careers Program, inaugurated in 1974, created a new, potent model for liberal arts education. The liberal arts have always meant broad learning. Liberal arts education is not just career training, it lays the foundation for a lifetime process of learning.

Church Careers bridges the disciplines of the liberal arts. It integrates. We structure and support spiritual, emotional, and relational, as well as intellectual growth. In Church Careers, education means developing as a whole person, becoming a mature and competent professional with a sound and affirming faith. We believe that education is who you are — not just what you know.





We built the program to meet eight basic needs of a church professional:



### Self-Awareness

We encourage you to grow in self-knowledge and understanding so that you will develop an authentic, secure, and positive self-image. In addition, you will gain self-awareness which makes you sensitive and responsive to the needs, values, faith, and autonomy of others.

### Analytical Ability

You can expect to learn to think analytically and critically, to use appropriate judgment which is the basis of clear and sound decision making. Openness, objectivity, and confidence characterize the ability to think critically.

### Theological Readiness

You will learn to think theologically, to express your growing theological understanding consistently, coherently and adequately. Both as a student and as a church professional, you will become aware of the broad range of theology and theological language within the Christian Church. We are a community of people who are continually seeking to formulate an adequate expression for our own faith.

### Pastoral Care and Counseling

In ministry, you deal with people who look for direction and guidance at critical moments in their lives. You will be a person with authority. You will need special knowledge and skills to respond to the counseling demands made upon you. These require a basic human sensitivity, spiritual and personal maturity, and the skill to discern when other professional assistance is needed and where to get it.



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### Administrative and Organizational Skills

You will learn to plan, organize, set goals, establish priorities, implement, manage, supervise, communicate, and evaluate. You will learn to develop and implement effective programs of ministry in the local church.

### Understanding of the Historical and Institutional Church

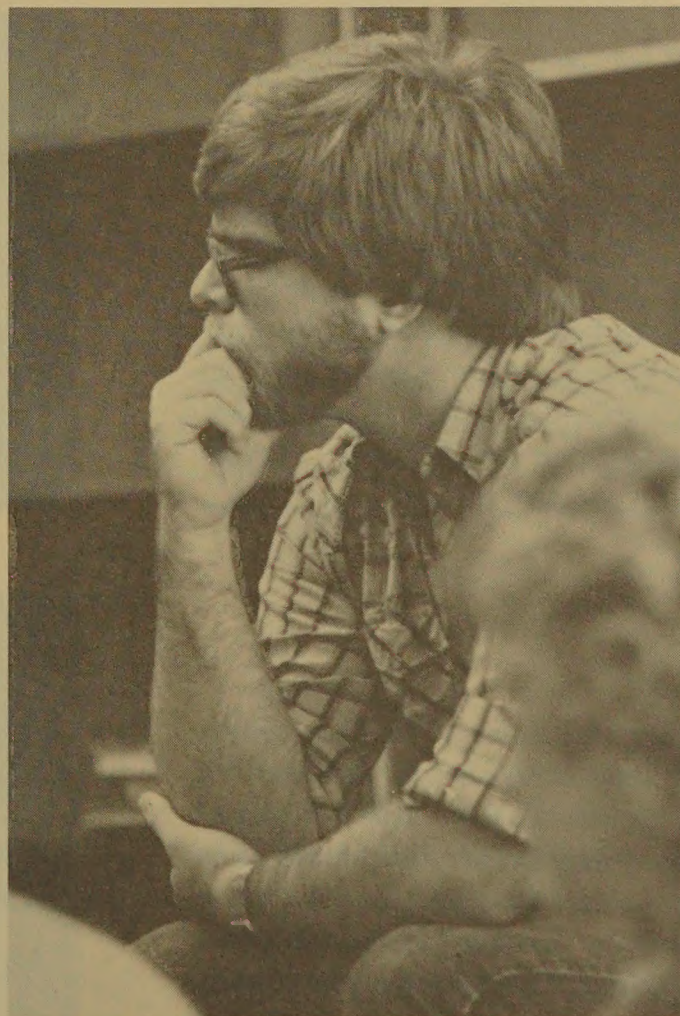
You will develop a theological interpretation of the church which will ground your place in its ministry. You will learn the history and tradition of the Christian Church. You will gain a functional awareness of the structure of the church within which you plan to work.

### Vocational Awareness

You will have the opportunity to explore the meaning of your vocation (your call from God). All Christians are called to the general ministry of the Church, others are called to more specific ministries, either lay or ordained. You will begin the process of making decisions which will enable you to best live out your calling.

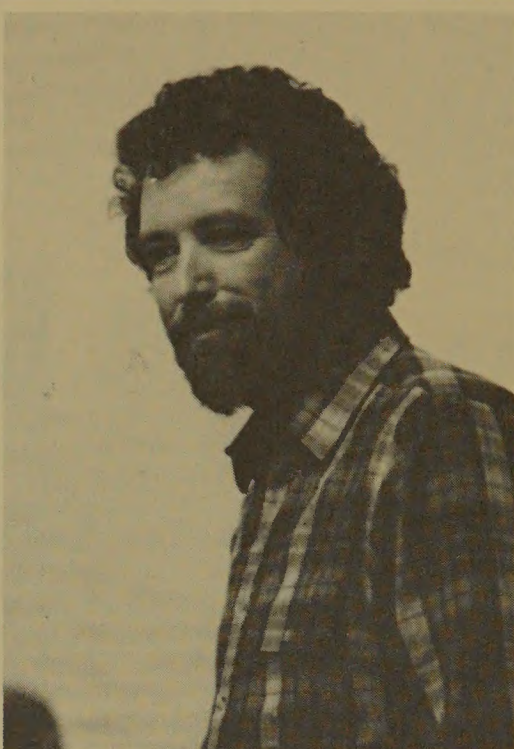
### Spiritual Formation

The person of faith should be spiritually nurtured and nurturing. Out of secular and sacred experiences alike, you will begin to create a life which is positive, constructive, hopeful, growing, valuing, and trusting. Each person's expression of faith is unique and draws its meaning from the traditions, rituals, theologies, and Biblical foundation of the Christian faith.

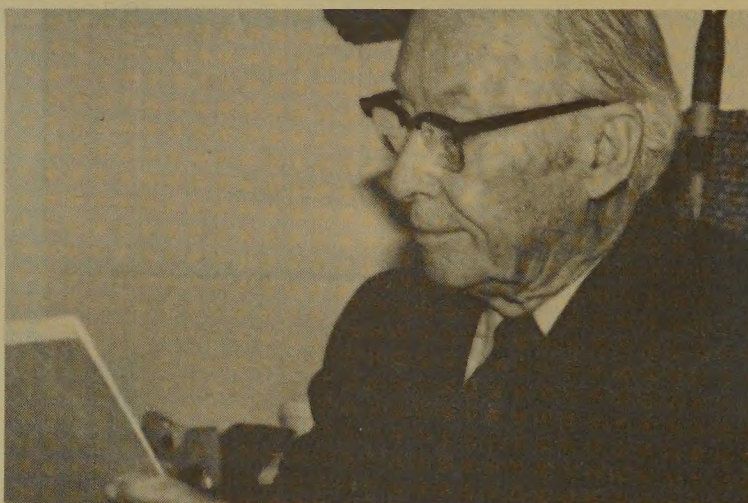




Bert Scott, Director of the Church Careers Program, is a United Methodist minister, has extensive training and expertise in pastoral care and counseling, and brings these interests to his involvement with students. Bert is an avid racquetball player and enjoys music, movies, and outdoor activities. \_\_\_\_\_



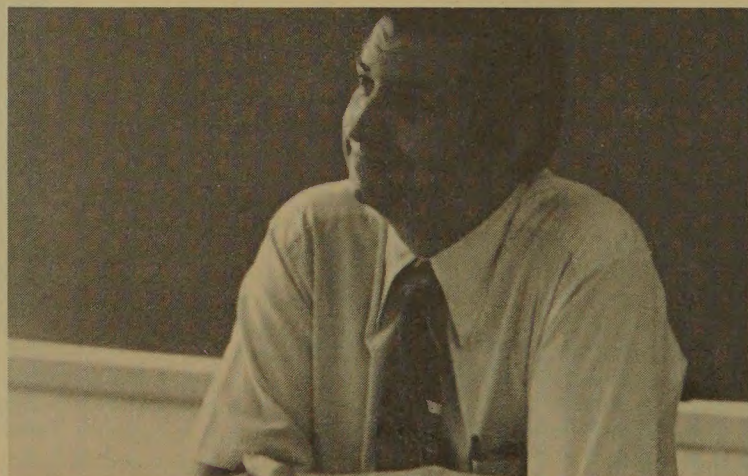
Bentley Sloane is a retired United Methodist minister and serves part-time as Coordinator of Church Placement. His work includes locating summer jobs for students and matching program graduates to available full-time church positions. \_\_\_\_\_



Anita Martin serves as Assistant Director of Admission and Church Careers Program Assistant. A 1980 Church Careers alumna, Anita describes herself as a "people person" who also enjoys creative writing, reading, needlepoint, and music. She travels extensively representing the Church Careers Program to prospective students. \_\_\_\_\_



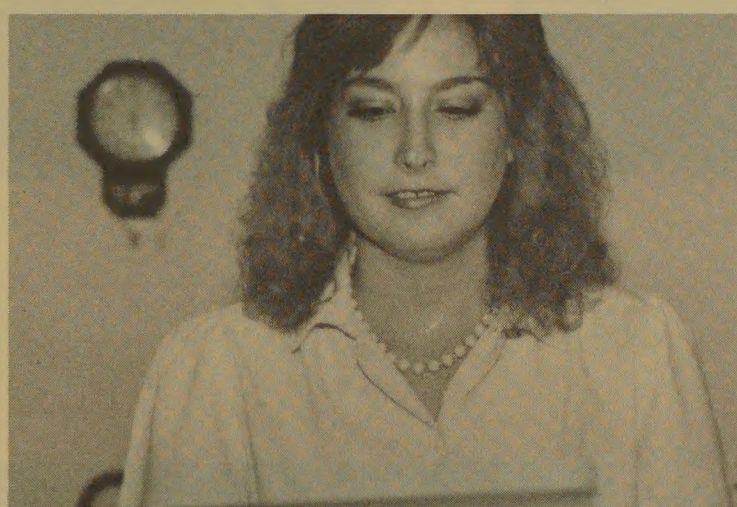
Donald Elmer is Chairman of the Department of Religion and is Associate Professor of Christian Education. A widely recognized expert in the areas of church school curriculum and adult leader training, Don's diverse interests include art and photography. His classes in Christian Education include a strong experimental element, giving students the opportunity to learn by doing. \_\_\_\_\_



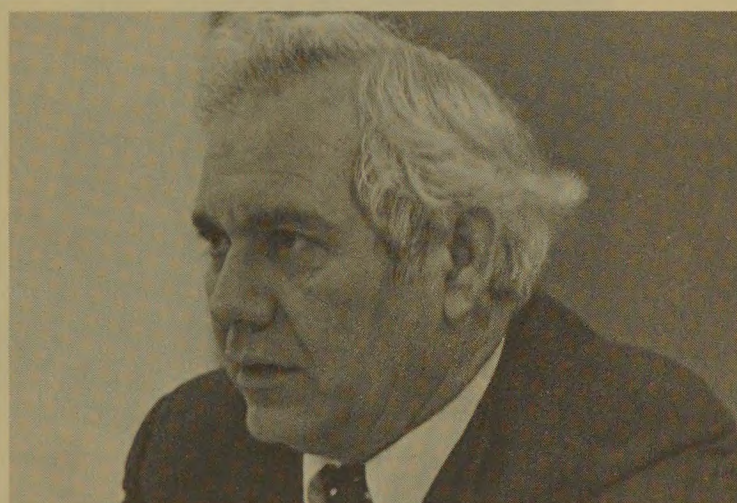




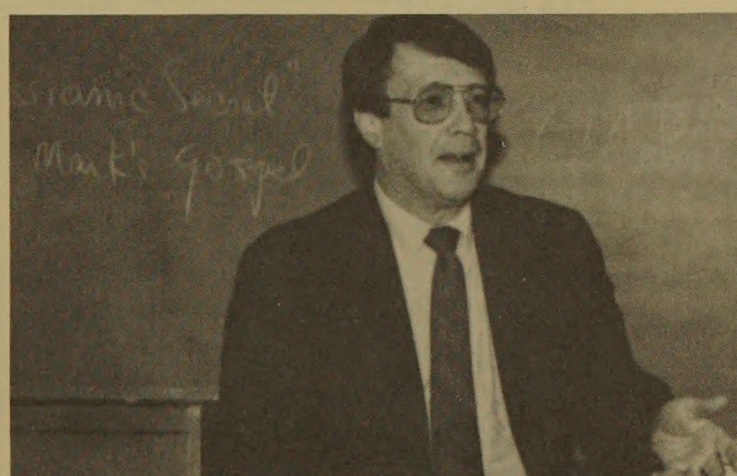
Wilson Brent, Associate Director of the Church Careers Program, is a United Methodist minister with special training in marriage and family therapy. Wilson is an active listener and his office (complete with one of the world's most interesting collections of frogs) is a popular place with both students and staff.



Alicia Gaby, Executive Secretary of the Church Careers Program, is a Shreveport native and has a degree in fashion merchandising. In addition to her work with the Church Careers staff and students, Alicia also sings professionally, enjoys tennis, and is a movie buff.



Webb Pomeroy is T. L. James Professor of Religion and is completing his year of teaching at Centenary. He is well known for his work in New Testament studies and teaches, lectures, and preaches throughout the country. Around campus Dr. Pomeroy is also recognized as a first-class auto mechanic and when not in the classroom can often be found under the hood of a student's car.



Robert Ed Taylor is Associate Professor of Religion and serves as Chaplain to the College. His classes and his extra-curricular involvement with students stress his belief that education means "to become. . . aware, curious, sensitive, open; to search. . . passionately, patiently, critically; to love. . . oneself, other persons, the created world, God!"





## Program Description

The program blends together a variety of elements to achieve the goals we have for your personal and professional growth. We are inter-disciplinary, nonsectarian, and clinical in our approach to education. We consider all of the following elements essential to the process which underlies the Program. Reflect carefully before declaring an intention to participate in the Church Careers Program.



### Academic Curriculum:

Study is essential for professional workers in the church. The liberal arts provide an intellectual base for ministry. You will be required to maintain a satisfactory academic record in accordance with the requirements set out in the Centenary College catalogue.

### Major:

The Church Careers Program and its areas of concentration do not form a major. You will major in Christian education, sacred music, religion, or another discipline which will provide a strong academic foundation for your career.

### Field Program:

You will be placed in a field setting in a local church of your denomination. There you will begin to apply what you have been learning in the classroom and in other parts of the program. At first you do a lot of observing. Each year more will be demanded of you and you will assume increasing responsibility as a skilled worker in the church.



### The Journal:

The Journal provides a tool which helps bring together the different parts of your experience into a workable whole. It synthesizes. You record your thoughts and feelings in response to what you are learning and experiencing. Specific assignments focus your thoughts. The Journal provides a means for students, staff, and faculty to dialogue, but the Journal also is a way that you carry on an important private conversation with yourself as you grow.





### Colloquium:

Regularly each semester the entire community comes together. We are a worshipping community. The colloquium also features speakers and programs which concentrate on creative ideas for ministry in the Church.

### Process Groups:

Every Church Careers student is a member of a small group led by an experienced and sensitive professional, usually an ordained minister. The group provides an atmosphere within which you can process your experiences in terms of specific topics and issues. Each semester the small groups have a different focus; together they build toward an integrated understanding of your ministry in the church and your life of faith.

### Sophomore Boards:

Toward the end of your sophomore year, you meet in conference with the staff of the program to evaluate your experiences and vocational direction. You also declare a track in the program.

### Pastoral Counseling Seminar:

Third year students meet regularly to study pastoral relationships and communication. You will learn about counseling and therapeutic relationships. This background enables you to listen sensitively to the concerns of people and to respond appropriately as a person of faith.

### Counseling and Supervision:

Staff and faculty nurture students and develop close relationships out of which come growth that is personal, emotional, academic, and vocational.

### Endorsement:

If you successfully complete all the college and program requirements, and if you demonstrate a level of competence which offers promise for a successful career in a church-related field, you will be endorsed by the Church Careers Program upon graduation from Centenary College. Our endorsement process involves an intensive staff evaluation and review, working with the student on vocational, spiritual, and personal direction.



### Community:

We are a nurturing community. We are invested in encouraging, challenging and caring for each person. As a part of our community, you will share in our life and growth together as a people of faith.



## Program Tracks

For the student who successfully meets all requirements and completes the Program, we offer two kinds of endorsement - one for immediate employment in the Church, the other for entrance into graduate study in seminary or other advanced degree programs. Students who are entering the advanced level of the Program (the junior and senior years) declare a direction and choose a "track" in the Program.

Those who wish to be endorsed and recommended for immediate employment in the church may select one of five tracks:

### Christian Education

This track provides training and practical experience to prepare you for work as a Christian educator in the local church. You will learn theory, skills, methods, resources, program planning and development, human cognitive and spiritual development, and the state of the art in Christian education.

### Youth Ministry

This track focuses particularly on developing understanding and skills in working with youth. You will be introduced to the latest developments in this emerging speciality in ministry at the same time that you are being made aware of the developmental needs of persons in this time of life. You will learn how this particular area of ministry relates to the overall education program of a church.

### Leisure Ministries

This track is designed to ready students for ministries which require knowledge of physical education as well as Christian education. Those who pursue this track will combine learning and insights from both of these disciplines leading to possible careers in outdoor recreation, camping, directing activity programs for churches or developing family ministries.

### Sacred Music

This track develops professional leadership for church work in worship and liturgy, choir direction, choral work, instrumental and vocal performance, and music program development. Students concentrate in either organ or voice/choral. In addition to a demanding music curriculum of history, theory and performance, you gain practical musical experience in a church while working on your spiritual and personal growth. To be admitted to this track, you must successfully audition at the Hurley School of Music.

### Church Business Administration

This track is for those persons who believe that their most effective gifts are in the area of administration but who want to utilize those gifts in the church rather than in a profit-making business. In this track you will learn principals of administration as well as work on your own personal and spiritual growth.





Those who wish to be endorsed for graduate study may choose either:

### Pre-Seminary Track

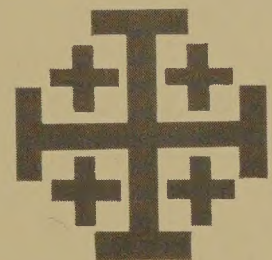
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This track is designed for students with a variety of interests, most of whom are preparing for graduate study and the ordained ministry as a pastor in the local church. You may major in religion, Christian education, or one of several other disciplines which provide solid academic foundation for further study. In addition, you gain a practical background in church work and undertake a rigorous program of personal and spiritual growth. The track emphasizes pastoral skills which provide you the foundation for an effective, supportive, and caring ministry.

### Pre-Graduate Work

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This track is for students who know that they want to pursue graduate work, but in a school other than a seminary. It is for persons who may be planning for careers in Church social work, counseling, communications, or some other church-related work. Practical experience in your area of interest is provided along with appropriate academic preparation. As in all the other tracks this is coupled with an intensive program of personal and spiritual growth.



The Jerusalem Cross is a symbol of the Program for Church Careers. The central cross stands for Christ and his gospel. The small crosses represent the four evangelists - Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. It symbolizes bringing the "good news" to the world. Another tradition holds that the crosses represent the wounds of Christ received in the passion.

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**W**e invite you to become a valued part of our community of Christian faith. Share in our common life - spiritual, academic, and professional! Your journey of growth and dedication can begin in the Church Careers Program of Centenary College. Call collect or write:

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318/869-5156

Join us!

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